

THE AGAWAM

ADVERTISER/NEWS

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Serving Agawam-Freetown Hills-Southwick

October 31, 1978

Agawam Rotary Contribute to Scholarship Fund



Agawam Rotary President David DeLancey (right) Presents \$1000 check to District Governor Bruce Murray at recent meeting.

Photo by Lou Guevin

The Agawam Rotary Club has donated \$1,000 to the Paul Harris Foundation, a division of Rotary International. Mr. Bruce Murray, district governor for Rotary International, accepted the donation on behalf of the organization.

Paul Harris was the founder of Rotary International, and this Graduate Fellowship Program was set up to honor him and the ideals of international understanding he worked for.

Young men and women are given an opportunity to study

or work in countries all over the world and to meet personally with people in other countries for a mutual exchange of ideas and friendship.

The donation from the Agawam Rotary was made as Rotary Foundation Week approaches - Nov. 12 to 18.

Finance Committee Says 'Hold the Line'

by Linda McQuade

The Southwick Finance Committee has established a "hold the line" policy for all town and school department budgets.

In a meeting last week with the Board of Selectmen and members of the School Committee, Finance Committee Chairman Francis Ehrhardt said the committee hopes to establish a ceiling on spending for various departmental budgets in an effort to stabilize the tax rate.

"This year will be another critical year for holding taxes," Ehrhardt said. "We do not intend to increase taxes in the town of Southwick. That's our stand. We hope to maintain the present tax rate using state reimbursements and surplus."

"If the state gives us more money, we'd like to be able to reduce taxes again. We are going to gamble that the state will hold with its reimbursements," he said.

"What the finance Committee is saying is that we cannot live with continual increases within the town and school department budgets. I realize that because of inflation there will be increases and that most of these increases will come as

salary hikes. We are not saying you'll have the same budget as last year, but there will be guidelines," Ehrhardt said.

"We are asking all departments to use money to its utmost capability. Look at every program. Set priorities. We're not telling you you'll have less money, but you won't have a heck of a lot more."

In a statement directed to the School Committee, Ehrhardt said, "Don't keep coming back telling the people you've got to raise their taxes. I realize that 80% of the school budget is for salaries and that it will be difficult to maintain a reasonable budget, but somewhere along the line we have to save some money."

Superintendent of Schools Louis Josselyn said he would be spending time with the school administrators in an effort to "trim the budget as much as possible." But, Josselyn added, "We have to keep in mind our prime objective which is educating our kids. It's difficult to place a dollars-and-cents limit on that. The school budget this year is cut very close, especially in the salary

account. There isn't that much room to play."

School committee member Paul Anderson said he expects the school budget next year to contain amounts for needed repairs to the school buildings.

"We must recognize the need for maintenance within the schools. Some of these repairs have been put off for five years. Each year we allocate for maintenance, but each year we are forced to cut the budget, and that's the first thing to go," Anderson said. "These repairs cannot be postponed any longer. Ceiling lights are out, doors are rotten, ceilings are brown with water stains. If we can we will cut in other areas, but this maintenance has to be done."

Anderson challenged Finance Committee members to attend the School Committee's budget hearings. "We've tried to keep the school budget down. It's not padded like you think. You be here when we go over our budget. If you find an area we can cut, we will."

Selectmen chairman Nuchi Prifti said budget increases were "inevitable" because of salary step increases and the further increase of the federal minimum wage. "Even if the operational budgets stay as they are, we'll have an increase," he said.

Prifti said the town was "scheduled" to receive the same amount of state reimbursements next year as it did this year. "We received \$79,000 over last year's reimbursements," Prifti said, "but our biggest gain came from the absorption of the court costs."

The boards then adjourned into executive session to discuss salary negotiations for municipal and school employees.

Traffic & Safety Division Formed

Agawam Police Chief Stanley P. Chmielewski announced recently that a Traffic and Safety Division of the Police Department has been formed. The Division will assume the duties that were previously done by Chmielewski when he was Safety Officer, along with their regular patrol duties.

Safety Officer Alfred Longhi will head up the Traffic and Safety Division as Commanding Officer. Members of the division are Harold Jarwa, Clifford Leone, and Robert Marash.

Chmielewski noted that the men will be dealing with safety education, accident investigation, and radar speed control. The men will also be available to speak to various groups in town concerning safety programs, and will train crossing guards and bus patrol personnel.

Chmielewski said that all existing safety programs in Agawam will remain in existence, along with the formation of some new programs in the near future. He noted that one such new program will be the addition of a motorcycle patrol in fair

weather. The motorcycle, obtained through funds from the Governor's Safety Program, will patrol the playgrounds, parks, and "back areas" of the town during the warmer months. Chief Chmielewski credit State Representative Edward Connelly as being "instrumental" in helping the town obtain the motorcycle.

Any complaints, comments, or questions on traffic and safety should be directed to Longhi or any member of his division.

Speed to be Posted on More Agawam Streets

Under the impetus of the demands of citizens for safer streets and the reduction of speed, Town Manager Peter O'Connell, Police Chief Stanley P. Chmielewski, and DPW Officer Jack Stone, have requested the services of a "speed survey team" from the State DPW and the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

The Survey Team must complete a study of traffic conditions on town streets before town officials can post speed limit signs. The team is composed of members of the State DPW and the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Chmielewski noted that due to the rapid growth of Agawam, there are many thickly settled areas in town which do not have the posted speed limit signs. He noted that the town is applying to the Governor's Safety Program for the funds necessary to erect the signs.

Chmielewski said that even though some streets are not as yet posted, a state prima facie law requires that the speed limit on any thickly settled area not exceed 30 MPH. A thickly settled area is defined by the state as one where buildings or houses are less than 200 feet apart for a

distance of 1/4 mile or more. On any town street outside a thickly settled area, the speed limit is set at 40 MPH unless otherwise posted.

The Chief stated that radar units will be patrolling some of streets where speeding complaints have risen in the past few months. He said the radar patrols will remain in effect until the signs have been erected, and will continue, as long as the police department receives complaints of speeders on such roads. Chmielewski said that anyone with a complaint should contact the Traffic and Safety Division.



Heidi, 8, of Springfield practicing for "Happy Holidays for Healthy Hearts" Children's Foundation Show which was held recently. Heidi is one of numerous children who have benefited from the program. Photo by Jack Devine

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Dance Performance at Kiley Jr. High

Members of the Performing Company of Dancer's World will present "An Evening of Dance", under the Direction of Trish Midei at Kiley Jr. High School, 180 Cooley St., Springfield, Mass., on Saturday, November 4th at 8:00 P.M. The dancers will perform classical ballet, modern and jazz peices choreographed by Trish Midei, director of Dancer's World, now the home of the new Western Mass., Dance Comapny, a non-profit organization.

Guests artists appearing on the program will be Company Members of Theodora's School of Ballet from Providence, R.I., who had performed in the Dancer's World Workshop Program two years ago. Tickets and information now available by calling Dancer's World Studio (413) 739-5318.

99¢ Starts Wednesday 99¢

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180 Cooley St., Springfield, Mass.

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Sliced Beef Liver	69¢ lb.	Imported Swiss Cheese	\$2.29 lb.

Domestic Sliced Cooked Ham
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SWEET LIFE VEGETABLE SALE!

Cut Green Beans, French Green Beans, Sliced Beets, Creamed Corn, Whole Kernel Corn, Tender Peas 4-16 oz. cans/\$1.00
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Sweet Life Grapefruit Juice 89¢ ½ gal.
Sweet Life Strawberry Jam 18 oz. jar 69¢

Sweet Life Chunk Light Tuna 6½ oz. cans 2/\$1.00 WITH \$10.00 PURCHASE	NBC Premium Crackers 16 oz pkg. 49¢ WITH \$10.00 PURCHASE
Sweet Life Mayonaise 79¢ qt. WITH \$10.00 PURCHASE	Sweet Life Margerine 3-1 lb. boxes/\$1.00 WITH \$10.00 PURCHASE

Agawam Senior Center Wright Street

10/30: Chicken croquettes, noodles, bean salad, apple sauce
10/31: Golumkis, squash, jello
10/31: Homecooked soup, fruit & cottage cheese salad, cookies
11/1: Pork in sweet & sour sauce, mashed potatoes, spinach, pears - FILM
11/2: Ravioli, lettuce, baked apple with vanilla sauce
11/3: Creamed tuna in patty shells, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit
11/6: Swedish meatballs in sour cream sauce, rice, corn, fresh fruit.
11/7: Diabetes Clinic Lunch: orange juice, bread, cheese, vegetable soup, salad, ice cream, sanku.
11/8: Hungarian dinner: paprika chicken, noodles, green beans in cream sauce, surprise cake. MOVIE.
11/9: Pepper steak, shredded potatoes, beet salad, pineapple jello.

With cold weather coming, do you ache and feel stiff? High time to join the exercise class on Monday mornings, 10-11 a.m. \$1.50 for 4 classes. You will be amazed how easy and painless it is to limber up!

November 19, Sunday, we will have our annual "Turkey Trot" with the Goldenaires from Holyoke. Most of you will remember the fun we had last year - let's repeat it. Entrance and refreshments only 50¢. We will limit it to 100 so sign up in time.

There will be No Hypertension Clinic November 7, but instead we will have the Diabetes Clinic. We will serve the prescribed luncheon here at the center to all non-diabetics. Clinic Dates:
Nov. 7: Diabetes
Nov. 14: Flu Shots
Nov. 21: Hypertension Clinic
Nov. 28: Podiatrist Clinic

We need some more ladies (or men) who will bake, cook or pickle for our annual Bazaar, November 4. Please sign up (just so we can get an idea how much we can expect) and bring things in either Friday afternoon or Saturday between 9 and 9:15.

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School Lunch Menus

Agawam School Lunch Menu

Wednesday-November 1-Baked hamburger & macaroni w/ spaghetti sauce, buttered italian bread, creamy cabbage & carrot salad, cherry jello w/ whip topping, milk.
Thursday-November 2-White meat turkey in gravy on whipped potatoes, cranberry sauce, buttered peas & carrots, rye bread & butter, ginger bread w/ whip topping, milk. (note: junior and senior high will have roast chicken)
Friday-November 3-½ tuna salad sandwich, ½ peanut butter sandwich, fresh carrot sticks, oven french fries, ice cream, milk.
Monday-November 6-½ tuna salad sandwich, ½ peanut butter sandwich, fresh carrot sticks, oven french fries, ice cream, milk.
Tuesday-November 7-Barbeque beef on roll, buttered niblet corn, oven french fries, ketchup, molasses cookies, milk.
Wednesday-November 8-Chilled fruit juice, steamed frankfort in roll, buttered seven minute cabbage, mustard & relish, dessert, milk.
Thursday-November 9-Oven roasted chicken, whipped potatoes, buttered sweet peas, whole wheat bread and butter, chocolate pudding w/ topping, milk.
Friday-November 10-Meatball grinders w tomato sauce topping, buttered niblet corn, sweet potato spice cake w/ vanilla icing, milk.

Southwick School Lunch Menu

Wednesday-November 1-Tacos w/ lettuce, tomatoes and cheese, buttered hot vegetables, jello w/ fruit, bread & butter, milk.
Thursday-November 2-Ham and cheese grinder w/ lettuce and tomatoes, buttered peas and carrots, chilled applesauce w/ cinnamon, milk.
Friday-November 3-Cheese pizza, buttered whole kernel corn, pear salad on lettuce leaf, cookies, bread & butter, milk.
Monday-November 6-Golden brown sausage links, waffles w/ syrup and butter, potato puffs, applesauce and milk.
Tuesday-November 7-American chop suey, buttered green beans, bread and butter, jello w/ fruit and topping, and milk.
Wednesday-November 8-Chicken ala king on english muffin, chopped lettuce salad w dressing, chilled peaches, milk.
Thursday-November 9-Open face cheese sandwich w/ tomato and bacon, potato chips, buttered corn, fresh apple, milk.
Friday-November 10-Golden fried fish, tartar sauce, baked macaroni and cheese, buttered peas, bread and butter, chilled fruit cup and milk.

Home Box Office Listings

WEDNESDAY NOV. 1

6:00 FIRE SALE (PG-1:28)
7:30 Standing Room Only:
PAUL AND HIS LADIES
9:00 McQ (PG-1:56)
11:00 THE OTHER SIDE OF MIDNIGHT (R-2:45)

THURSDAY NOV. 2

6:00 "OH, GOD!" (PG-1:44)
8:00 Football:
INSIDE THE NFL
9:00 TELEFON (PG-1:43)
11:00 "OH, GOD!" (PG-1:44)

FRIDAY NOV. 3

5:30 \$1,000,000 DUCK (G-1:32)
7:00 Football:
INSIDE THE NFL
8:00 Feature Showing:
SEA GYPSIES (G-1:41)
10:00 Boxing:
SUGAR RAY LEONARD BOXING
11:00 FIRST LOVE (R-1:32)
12:30 RETURN OF A MAN CALLED HORSE (PG-2:09)

SATURDAY NOV. 4

3:00 BARBARELLA (PG-1:38)
5:00 Football:
INSIDE THE NFL
6:00 SPECIAL DELIVERY (PG-1:39)
8:00 OLD YELLER (NR-1:23)
9:30 TAKE A HARD RIDE (PG-1:43)
11:30 On Location:
ROBIN WILLIAMS
1:00 ROLLING THUNDER (R-1:39)

SUNDAY NOV. 5

3:00 Standing Room Only:
PAUL AND HIS LADIES
4:30 McQ (PG-1:56)
6:30 Standing Room Only:
VICTOR BORGE:
COMEDY WITH MUSIC
8:00 Feature Showing:
THE BETSY (R-2:05)
10:30 FIRE SALE (PG-1:28)
12:00 THE BETSY (R-2:05)

MONDAY NOV. 6

5:00 A BRIDGE TOO FAR (PG-2:56)
8:00 THE SEA GYPSIES (G-1:43)
10:00 TELEFON (PG-1:43)
12:00 THE OTHER SIDE OF MIDNIGHT (R-2:43)

TUESDAY NOV. 7

6:30 \$1,000,000 DUCK (G-1:32)
8:00 OLD YELLER (G-1:23)
9:30 Standing Room Only:
PAUL AND HIS LADIES
11:00 BARBARELLA (PG-1:38)

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JOE DELLA-GIUSTINA

ED CONNELLY

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Supports Proposition 2½
(based on California's Proposition 13) | Voted not to let Proposition 2½ out of
Legislative Committee |
| 2. Stands against 100% Valuation of Real
Estate Taxes | Sponsored the 100% Property
Valuation Bill which would Skyrocket
our Taxes 15% |
| 3. Stands against a State Graduated
Income Tax | Voted for State Graduated Income Tax |
| 4. Strongly Endorses Question 1 Property
Tax Classification | Voted Against Property Tax
Classification |
| 5. Stands for Property Tax Relief for the
Elderly | Voted against Property Tax Relief for
the Elderly |
| 6. Stands against 67% increase in the Sales
Tax | Voted for the 67% Sales Tax Increase |
| 7. Stands for Reducing the Welfare
Budget | Voted against Reducing the Welfare
Budget |
| 8. Wants to give the State Surplus of \$146-
million back to the People | Voted against giving the \$146-million
State Surplus back to the People |
| 9. Stands against giving Insurance
Companies a \$60-million tax cut | Voted for a \$60-million tax cut for
Insurance Companies |
| 10. Stands for reducing Auto Insurance
Rates | Voted against rolling back Auto
Insurance Rates |

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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Span and Youth Center Must Find Other Funding

by Gail Lonetto

The Agawam Youth Center and SPAN are concerned that town funding for their services will be phased out.

At the request of the Agawam Town Council, Town Manager Peter Caputo has initiated a town-wide campaign to find areas for possible budget cuts or consolidation of services. Mr. Caputo has stated that both the Youth Center and SPAN are presently being evaluated to determine their total value to the community.

The Youth Center provides out-reach services to youths, 5 through 18 years old. Counseling services for drug, family, school, and social problems are combined with activities that involve decision-making and interpersonal relationships. These activities include camping, canoeing, and caving.

The Town of Agawam provided \$24,000, or 53% of the Youth Center's total \$35,000 budget. The remaining 47% was in matching funds from the National Drug Abuse Foundation. The Youth Center must receive a total of 40% of its total budget from the town in order to receive matching state and federal

funds. According to George Schaler, director of Youth Center, the center would not be able to continue if town funding was eliminated.

SPAN offers counseling and resources to Agawam residents of all ages. It currently provides a wide range of in-depth counseling services, including family therapy, children's groups, drug and individual counseling. Other services include educational programs and a crisis intervention service.

During fiscal 1978, SPAN received \$35,000, or 35% of its total \$100,000 budget from the Town of Agawam. Matching funds from the National Drug Abuse Foundation, the Department of Mental Health, and the Department of Public Welfare constitute approximately 49% of its funding. The remaining 16% is raised through fees, donations, grants, and contributions.

SPAN, also, must receive 40% of its total funding from Agawam to receive matching state and federal.

Dr. Femiano, director of SPAN, feels that if given an adequate amount of time, funding could be phased out gradually over a period of three years, and they would be able to find alternate areas of funding.

Feeding Hills Man Stars in WNEC Play

The Stageless Players of Western New England College will present "Twelve Angry Men" on Nov. 2, 3, and 4 (Thursday-Saturday). This is the first time the college theater ensemble has performed a dramatic production.

"Twelve Angry Men" by Reginald Rose examines the personalities of jurors who must decide the guilt or innocence of a young man accused of murder.

Directing the play is Stageless Players' president Donna M. Dore, a senior from West Springfield. In feature roles are sophomore Jonathan B. Baine of Mt. Kisco, N.Y., Michael A. Grimaldi, a sophomore from Feeding Hills as foreman of the jury, and sophomore Sheryl Wyman of Blandford.

Performances of "Twelve Angry Men" will take place in W. H. Sleith Hall Auditorium at 8 p.m. For ticket reservations, call 733-4952. Tickets will also be available at the door.



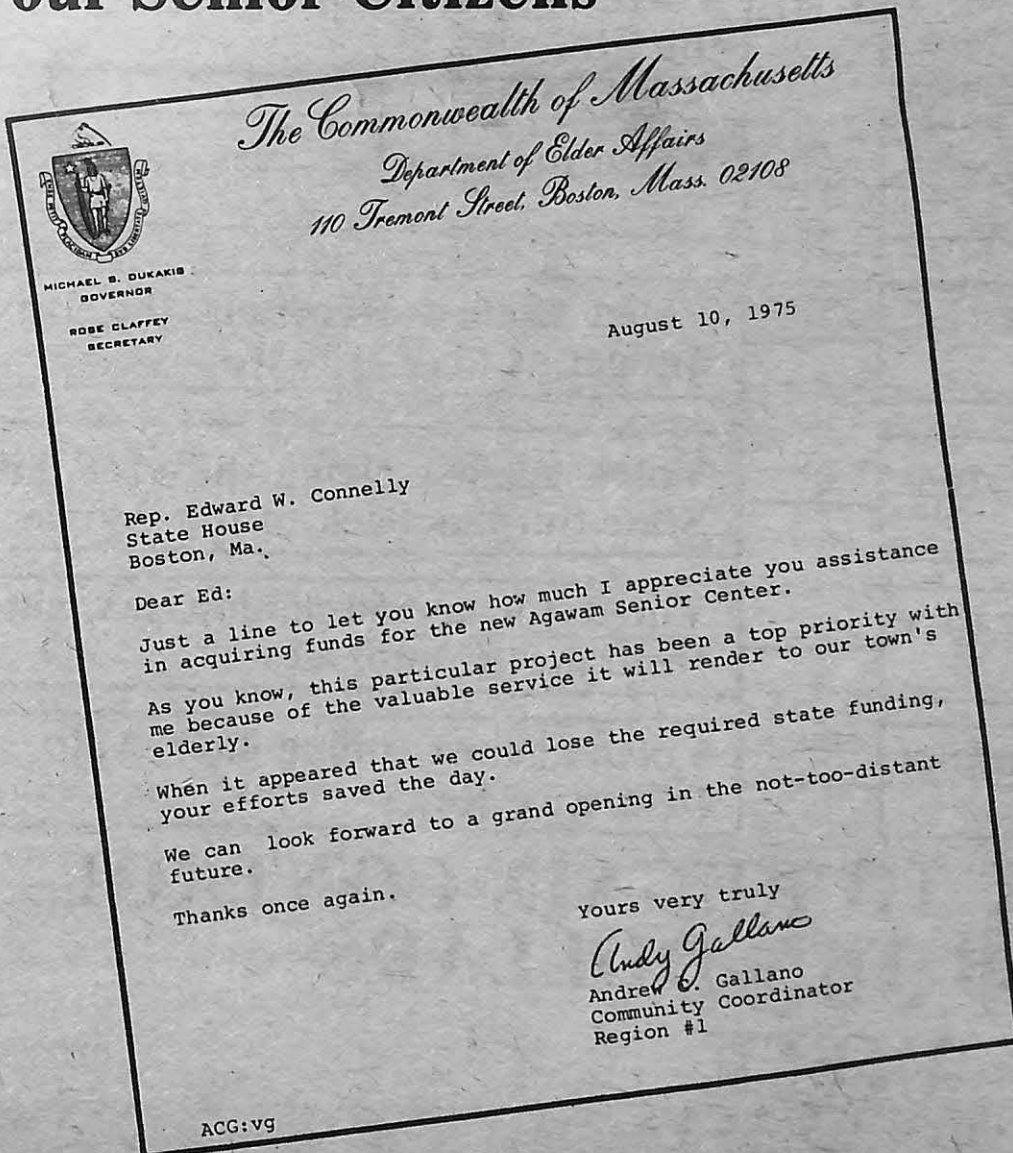
Michael A. Grimaldi

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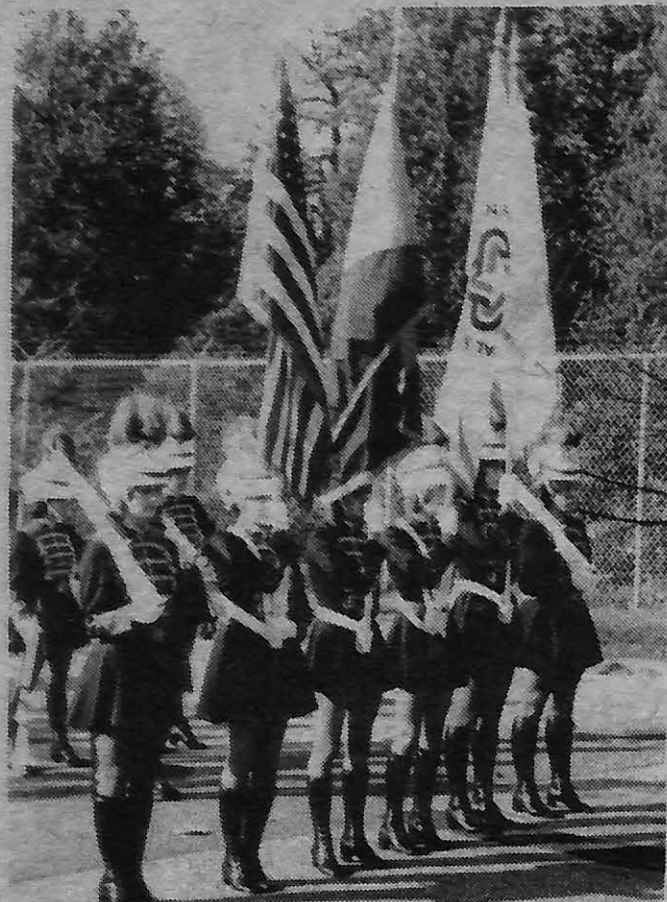
MONDAY: Tortolini Soup, Italian Bread & Beverage
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WEDNESDAY: Meatballs w/Zitti, Roll/Butter
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High School Band Places In Competition



The Agawam High School Band scored a Division I (Superior) rating in taking fourth place at the State Marching Band Contest in Lowell.

In scoring 114 points out of a possible 144, the band and color guard placed in the highest-rated category and close on the heels of the three winning bands - Dartmouth (123), Blackstone Regional (122), and Belmont (120) in the medium-large school category. Agawam's score also placed them ahead of all bands in the largest school category except the first three. This class was won by Norwood High with a score of 125. Second and third were won by South Hadley and Silver Lake Regional.

Other bands competing in the state contest included Concord-Carlisle, Methuen, Algonquin, Hingham, Tewksbury, Abington, Dennis-Yarmouth, Melrose, Medway, Littleton, Lynnfield, and Cathedral.

Bands in the contest were rated in three captions; Marching Performance,

Musical Performance, and Overall General Effect, in addition to a very stiff inspection of uniforms and equipment. Agawam's best score came from Judge George Parks, director of the UMASS marching band, who gave them 24 out of 30 on overall effect. Within this caption, a perfect score of 30 out of 30 on show continuity was given, and 29 out of 30 points for color guard effectiveness and showmanship were given. At the time this mark was given, there were still ten bands to perform.

Other judges included William Elwell, director of the Portsmouth, N.H., Band; David Maker, director of the UCONN Marching Band; and Arthur Reilly from the Mass. Marching Judges Association.

In additional activities this year, the Agawam High Band and Color Guard will take part in the University of Conn. High School Band Day, which will feature a massed-band performance of 25 bands at the half-time of the UCONN/Boston University football game and also a

contest between nine selected bands from the group for the "Nutmeg Cup." This event will take place on Nov. 11th and will find the group leaving early Saturday morning for rehearsal of the massed bands (over 2,000 student musi-

October 31, 1978 cians). The field contests will take place at 10:30. Bands not competing will take part in a parade around the campus at noontime. The winning band from the morning show will be featured at halftime, in addition to the massed bands.

Classification Would Increase Taxes in Agawam Committee Claims

Property taxes for homeowners in Agawam would go up an average 17.1% above their present level if Question 1 - the Property Tax Classification Amendment - were to pass.

The projected tax increase was contained in a statewide tax impact study of classification undertaken by the Committee Against Property Tax Discrimination, the group opposing Question 1.

The same study showed property tax increases in Agawam of 39.5% on commercial property and 56.5% on industrial.

Furthermore, personal property in Agawam would be taxed 174.1% more under classification than it is now, the study showed. That extra large increase is due to an oversight where personal property was not classified as either residential, commercial, or industrial property. As a result, personal property would be not only assessed but taxed at 100% of its full market value.

Similar across-the-board

increases on a statewide basis also showed up in the study, if passed, Question 1 would have homeowners throughout the Commonwealth paying an average 22% more than now; and business, 38% more than now.

Herbert Roth, volunteer chairman of the committee, explained the tax increases for homeowners throughout the homeowners and businesses alike result from the expected increases in local spending and the appreciation in property values that would take place before classification came into effect. The committee's tax impact study considered those inflationary factors along with several others to project the property tax increases under classification.

Other factors considered in the tax impact study, a computer analysis, included the following:

--That the assessment ratios being proposed under classification have been designed to help out Boston and are at odds with local tax situations.

--That classification does not

reduce property taxes, lower local or state spending, or stop 100% revaluation. (100% is court-ordered and irreversible).

--That, before classification would be instituted, a town or city must first go to 100%; and, by that time, property values for homeowners and business alike will have risen.

--That, since residential property appreciates at a faster pace than business property, homeowners would shoulder the difference in increased taxes.

--That classification does not shift that increased burden onto business in smaller towns, for there is little commercial and industrial property there in the first place.

Estimates of tax bills under classification put out by proponents of Question 1 do not consider those factors.

Roth's committee is urging people to vote "NO" on Question 1 to force the legislature to present voters with a tax plan that would not deal with 100% revaluation by raising property taxes on business and homeowners alike.

LaLeche League to Meet

La Leche League of Agawam will hold its meeting on Monday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. in the home of Gloria Foley, 63 Anthony Street, Agawam. The discussion will center on the arrival of the baby and some practical advice on coping during the early weeks.

The meeting is informal, and pregnant women are urged to attend, as well as nursing mothers and their babies.

For further information or counseling contact Mikie Cook, 183 Pine View Circle.

Prescription Stores

EDWARD	ARTHUR
DRUG CENTER	DRUG CENTER
287 Springfield St.	55 Springfield St.
Agawam	Agawam
786-4100	786-0600
Edward Gallerani	Arthur Gallerani

EVERYTHING MUSICAL

AVAILABLE ON

CHRISTMAS LAYAWAYS

COME IN FOR DETAILS

SINFONIA MUSIC

Agawam's Musical Headquarters
299 Springfield Street, Agawam

Mon-Wed-Thurs 10-6 786-0364

Tues & Fri 10-6
Sat 10-5

GINO'S LIQUORS

JUST AROUND THE CORNER FROM
ZAYRES AND FOOD MART, AGAWAM

Specials of the Week

Heinikens Beer \$3.69 Six Pack
\$13.99 Case
BEER

Schaefer 12 oz. N/R \$5.75 Case

Schmidt 12 oz. N/R \$5.50 Case
or cans

Piel's Real Draft 12 oz. \$4.89 Case
cans

WINE

Allini Lambrusco \$1.39 fifth
\$2.69 magnum

Borgnino Spumonti \$2.99 fifth

LIQUOR

Schenley Gin 90° quart \$5.39

PM Whiskey 1.75 litre \$9.95

WALNUT PLAZA, WALNUT STREET EXTENSION, AGAWAM
MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 8 TO 11

FEEDING HILLS PUBLIC MARKET

634 Springfield St., Feeding Hills

Fresh Lean Hamburg \$1.49 lb.

Pioneer Dairy Ice Cream \$1.49 1/2 gal.

Krakus Imported Ham \$1.49 1/2 lb.

Land o Lakes American Cheese 79¢ 1/2 lb.



Coca Cola, Barrelhead Root Beer and Canada Dry Ginger Ale 64 oz. 79¢

U. S. No. 1 Potatoes 10 lbs. 79¢

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days

FREE DELIVERY OVER \$10.00 PURCHASE
786-0772

Social

Dorothy H. Bates Weds Lt. David T. Cesan

On Friday, September 29, 1978, at a 5 o'clock candlelight service at the First Church of Christ, Longmeadow, the marriage of Dorothy Hamilton Bates of Longmeadow to David T. Cesan of Feeding Hills took place. The Rev. Clarke B. Schaff presided.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Hamilton of Suffield, Conn., and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David E. Cesan of Westfield.

Mrs. Cynthia Pliska,

daughter of the bride, served as matron of honor, and Barry B. Cesan, son of the groom, served as best man. Ushers were Norman Pelley of Feeding Hills and John Tortoriello of Southwick.

A reception at Chez Josef followed the ceremony.

Following a wedding trip to Florida, the couple is residing in Feeding Hills.

The bride is assistant treasurer at Valley Bank and Trust Co., and the groom is a lieutenant with the Agawam Fire Department.



Mrs. Robert DiSalvo

Kathryn D. Gardner Weds Robert DiSalvo

On October 28, 1978, Kathryn D. Gardner of Lowell, Mass., became the bride of Robert DiSalvo also of Lowell, Mass. in an 11:00 a.m. ceremony at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam. The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Gardner of 107 Silver Lake Drive, Agawam, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James DiSalvo of 110 Burnham Road, Lowell.

Miss Nancy Gardner served

as maid of honor, and Louis Oliver was the best man.

Mrs. DiSalvo is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and is employed at Bolt, Beranek, and Newman in Cambridge.

Mr. DiSalvo is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and is a financial accountant with Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. in Boston.

The couple will reside in Lowell.



Agawam Lions President Ray Favreau (right) and Jim Taupier Chairman for the Pancake Breakfast make final arrangements for the pancake breakfast to be held at the Agawam Middle School on November 5, 1978.

photo by Jack Devine

Lions Pancake Breakfast

The Agawam Lions' Club is having its annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 5th from 8 a.m. to noon. The proceeds from this event will

go to their sight and hearing funds. The town's support of this project will be greatly appreciated in helping make it a success.

Veteran's Day Services

A memorial church service in honor of Veterans Day will be held for all veterans on Sunday, Nov. 5, 1978, at the Valley Community Church on South Westfield St., Feeding Hills. The Rev. Frank Dunn will conduct the 10 a.m. service.

VFW Post 1632, American Legion Post 185, W W I Barracks, and P A V Vets will take part in the service, and all veterans are encouraged to attend.

Troop 79 Making Bird Houses for

Seniors

Boy Scout Troop 79 is making bird houses for the senior citizens at Meadow Brook Manor, but they are in need of wood. If you have any pieces of scrap lumber of any size and are willing to donate for this project, please call Bryan Kinsley at 786-2739 after 4 p.m. during the week and at any time on weekends. This wood would be picked up and greatly appreciated.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 3, 1978
Mormon Church
Rummage Sale
376 Maple St., Spfld.
1-7 p.m.

November 7, 1978
Agawam-West Spfld.
Newcomers Club Meeting
Captain Leonard House,
663 Main St., Agawam
8 p.m.

November 4, 1978
UNICO Dinner
Chez Josef, Agawam
6:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

November 7, 1978
Grange Meeting
North Westfield St.,
Feeding Hills
7:30 p.m.

November 5, 1978
Lions Club Pancake
Breakfast
Agawam Middle School
8 a.m. - 12 noon

November 10 - 11, 1978
Polish American Club
Women's Auxiliary
'Bazaar in the Country'
11/10 - 4-10 p.m.
11/11 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

November 5, 1978
Veteran's Day Memorial
Service
Valley Community
Church-Feeding Hills
10 a.m.

November 10 & 11, 1978
Sacred Heart Church
Christmas Bazaar
Springfield St., Feeding
Hills
11/10 - 6-9 p.m.
11/11 - 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

November 6, 1978
LaLeche League Meeting
63 Anthony St., Agawam
8 p.m.

November 15, 1978
Sacred Heart Athletic
Association Chicken
Dinner
Polish American Club
Southwick St., Feeding
Hills
5-7:30 p.m.



A public service of
CURRAN-JONES
FUNERAL HOME

CURRAN JONES

109 MAIN STREET, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
745 COOPER STREET, AGAWAM, MASS.

Polish American Club

Agawam, Mass.

BINGO

Every Tuesday Night

139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills

FREE COFFEE

CASH PRIZES

Doors Open 6:15 - Early Bird Special 7:15

Smoke
Eaters
Installed

Progressive Bottom Line Bingo
on Hard Cards -
Starts at \$60 - up to \$200



Mrs. Thomas R. Schmidt, Jr.

Mary R. Bull Wed to Thomas R. Schmidt, Jr.

Mary R. Bull, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester M. Bull of 260 James Street, Feeding Hills, became the bride of Thomas R. Schmidt, Jr. of 24 Mallard Circle, Agawam, on

Saturday, October 21, 1978 at the Sacred Heart Church, Feeding Hills. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt were graduated from Agawam High School. The bride is employed by Heritage Hall Nursing Hall, Agawam, and the groom is employed by H. P. Hood, Agawam.

A reception followed the ceremony and was held at Old Storowton Tavern, West Springfield.

The couple will reside in Springfield.

Ensign Cooper's

Tea Sets from Japan

Our beautiful china tea sets are exquisitely hand decorated and have woven reed handles.

They are a perfect gift selection when you truly want to please a lady.

7 Piece Sets \$19.50 to \$32.50



OPEN SUNDAY NOON - 5:30

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday 10 AM-9 PM Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

Closed Monday

Ensign Cooper's

Main Street Agawam

(NEXT TO COUNTRY SQUIRE)

SILVER CARRIAGE INN

1520 Main Street, Agawam

786-0265



RAGTIME MUSIC EVERY FRIDAY

Presenting

"BANJOS and BRASS"

8:30 to 12:30

Also Dinners Served 6-10 P.M.

Fine Jewelry

FOR ALL OCCASSIONS

• DIAMONDS • RINGS
• WATCHES • REPAIRS

Dependable Quality
and Service

Lettalieu Jewelers

The Store of Dependable
Quality & Service
383 Walnut St., Agawam



'Help Fill This Basket' is the plea from members of the Jr. Women's Club (L. to R.) Aprille Soderman, Penny Stone, and Paula Huber. photo by Jack Devine

Caring and Sharing

by Ann Perry

The dictionary defines a clearinghouse as "a place or institution where mutual claims and accounts are settled." But in Agawam, the Clearinghouse stands for the funnel through which area groups and organizations channel their resources to provide families in need with baskets of food for the holidays.

The Clearinghouse Project, under the direction of the Agawam Junior Women's Club, will be organizing and

sending out Thanksgiving baskets very soon. The first phase of letter-writing, phone-calling, and list-making has already begun.

Mrs. Aprille Soderman, chairwoman of this project, hopes to fill at least 30 bushel baskets with the makings of a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner.

"To do this," Mrs. Soderman said, "we're counting on the enthusiastic support of the public and private sectors of the

community. Our businesses, clubs, scout troops, church groups, and public school children have been most generous in the past."

The Clearinghouse idea was conceived and organized by Mrs. Edith Larsen in 1958 as a means of channeling the giving programs of several local organizations. Some families had received two or more baskets from different groups, while other families with legitimate needs were completely overlooked.

The work begins each fall with the school nurses. The nurses are in a position to know where the need exists. They are very discreet, and they're usually the first to know if a family is experiencing difficulty. They, then, make recommendations to the Clearinghouse on the basis of what they see. Recommendations also come in from area churches and from the Senior Center.

Need is determined by many factors. Sudden and severe difficulties are generally given first preference. An example might be a home damaged by fire, leaving the family temporarily, but seriously, in need of aid. Sudden loss of income or of health is another consideration. The number and ages of children in a family helps determine priority.

The exact number of baskets to be given out can be determined only after all contributions are in; therefore, Mrs. Soderman suggested anyone wishing to help should let her know soon. "We need the continued support of many to provide this needed service in our town." Donations may be made in the form of turkeys, fresh fruit and vegetables, canned or frozen foods, personal checks, or cash. Donations are tax deductible. Some organizations donate to the Clearinghouse as a part of their annual budget. Some may wish to make up their own holiday baskets as a

group project and simply have the Junior Women's Club handle the delivery. Groups may also deliver their own baskets.

The main point of the Clearinghouse project is that all groups should work through this focal point so that duplication of effort is avoided, and as many families as possible can be helped.

Individuals can contribute in various ways, also. One Agawam woman, who chooses to remain anonymous, asks the Clearinghouse to select a family with a particularly urgent need. Once furnished with the ages, sex, and sizes of the children, she purchases clothing, boots, and other necessities for them.

This is the Juniors' fifth year directing this project and each year, though the prices go up, they find new ways to meet the challenge. Last year, for example, students in each of the public schools contributed substantially to the project. Students from one elementary school brought in new or used toys that were in good condition; another collected canned goods; another contributed boxed foods; and so on. So much was collected, in fact, that many more families received baskets than originally planned.

The project is a rewarding experience for all involved. "My family and I enjoyed the holidays much more just knowing we had helped in some small way. There is something special about meeting real needs with real help and seeing real gratitude. I wanted to do more."

Mrs. Soderman welcomes donations from area churches, clubs, scout and youth groups, businesses, and private individuals. She can be contacted at 786-3412. "We appreciate all contributions of food, money, or gifts. No contribution is too small when it comes from the heart. By caring and sharing the abundance we have, no one will have to do without."

7.75% Income or 8.14% Growth

The choice is yours
with our 6-year certificate...
We guarantee the interest
rate.

GROWTH INSURED TERM CERTIFICATE

When you save at Westfield Savings Bank, your money is sure to grow in a sound investment. Invest in our six year certificate and your savings will earn 7¾% annual rate or 8.14% effective annual yield. It's a sure investment. . . safe. . . sound guaranteed.

For sure growth of your money -
see us now.

INCOME MONTHLY INCOME CHECKS

Invest in our six year certificate and, upon your request, we'll mail you your interest earned every month.

OR, if you choose, the interest may be deposited in your NOW or REGULAR SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

NOW you can have the security of money in the bank and the convenience of steady income at the same time.

For a sure monthly income -
see us now.

LAW REQUIRES PENALTY FOR EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF TERM CERTIFICATES \$1,000 MINIMUM



Westfield
Savings
Bank

141 ELM STREET
WESTFIELD

DRIVE-IN OFFICE
26 ARNOLD STREET
WESTFIELD

1853 125th ANNIVERSARY 1978
SERVING YOUR FINANCIAL NEEDS

655 MAIN STREET
AGAWAM

206 PARK STREET
WEST SPRINGFIELD

NEWELL'S
409 MAIN ST., W. S.
31 YEARS SERVICE
WEST SPRINGFIELD AND AGAWAM
Sales & Service Zenith & RCA
We Service All Makes of TV
Lic. 3181 & 3182
733-8902 or 732-6810

WANIEWSKI FARMS, INC.

409 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, Mass.

U.S. GOVERNMENT INSPECTED

Italian Sausage \$1.25 lb.

Country Sausage \$1.25 lb.

Gold Ring Kielbasa \$1.30 lb.

786-1182

Editorials

EDITOR'S NOTE: This week we are devoting our Editorial Page to the November 7th ballot. You will find below the questions which will appear on our ballot here in Agawam and Southwick, you will also find a list of the candidates for the races that directly affect us. Study the questions carefully, and know the candidates views BEFORE you enter the polling booth. To make your vote really count, know who and what you are voting for.

QUESTION 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on May 28, 1975, by a vote of 220-53, and on September 7, 1977, by a vote of 243-20?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would permit the legislature to establish as many as four different classes of real property for tax purposes. Property in any one class would be required to be assessed, rated and taxed proportionately but property in different classes could be assessed, rated and taxed differently. The legislature could grant reasonable exemptions. The constitution presently requires all property (other than wild lands, forest lands, and certain agricultural and horticultural lands) to be assessed and rated equally at full value for tax purposes.

QUESTION 2

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on May 28, 1975, by a vote of 267-3, and on August 10, 1977, by a vote of 250-1?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would allow a governor who had not served in the preceding year as governor to submit a proposed budget to the legislature within eight weeks of the beginning of the legislative session. A governor who had served in the preceding year would still be required to submit a proposed budget within three weeks of the beginning of a legislative session.

QUESTION 3

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on June 26, 1976, by a vote of 244-6, and on August 10, 1977, by a vote of 253-1?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would require the Secretary of the Commonwealth to send information about questions that will appear on the state election ballot to each person eligible to vote in the Commonwealth, or to every residence in the Commonwealth where one or more eligible voters live. Presently, the Constitution requires the Secretary to send this information to each registered voter in the Commonwealth.

QUESTION 4

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on May 26, 1976, by a vote of 266-0, and on August 10, 1977, by a vote of 258-0?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would require that in the taking of the state census, residence be determined in accordance with the standards used by the United States when taking the federal census. Under the federal standards, residence is based upon where a person spends most of his or her time whereas under present state standards residence is based upon legal domicile. The standards would be subject to any exceptions which the legislature might enact.

QUESTION 5

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on May 26, 1976, by a vote of 260-1, and on August 10, 1977, by a vote of 255-0?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would allow a local charter commission 18 months after its election to prepare a charter or charter revision for submission to the voters of a city or town. Presently, the constitution provides that the charter or charter revision be prepared within 10 months of the election of the charter commission.

QUESTION 6

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on June 11, 1975, by a vote of 175-73, and on September 7, 1977, by a vote of 173-90?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would provide that a student could neither be assigned to nor denied admittance to a public school on the basis of race, color, national origin or creed.

QUESTION 7

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Do you approve of the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution summarized below, which was approved by the General Court in joint sessions of the House of Representatives and Senate on August 11, 1976, by a vote of 248-5, and on May 24, 1978, by a vote of 257-0?

YES	
NO	

SUMMARY

The proposed constitutional amendment would give the legislature the power to establish a different method of property taxation for land which is used for recreational purposes and for land preserved in its natural state. It would add these two categories to the existing constitutional provision which allows the legislature to tax wild and forest land differently. The amendment's stated purpose is to develop and conserve natural resources and the environmental benefits of recreational land.

QUESTION 8

"Shall the pari-mutuel system of betting on licensed dog races be permitted in this county?"

In the County of Hampden

YES	
NO	



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I would like to acknowledge publicly my thanks and heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful ambulance crew.

Last Saturday, Oct. 21st, my husband, who is scheduled for open-heart surgery, was stricken with heart failure. The ambulance and cruiser arrived in unbelievable haste. The competence and kindness of Fire fighter Cimaro and Police officer Loncto was a great comfort to both of us in our time of stress.

I was also taken back home after my husband's admittance to Bay State Medical Center, and wish to add my thanks to that officer also.

The people in the Town of Agawam are extremely fortunate to have such a highly skilled medical team.

With sincere thanks to all of them, I remain Gratefully yours.

Mrs. Roy S. Duvall

To the Editor:

On November 7th we are being asked to vote on Question 1. The MOST important question is not being answered or even asked - what will be done about the tax rate? It is the tax rate that really needs our attention, not valuation or classification - increased rates mean higher taxes any way you slice it! The only way to keep the tax rate under control is to lower spending. The one other factor that has a real effect on your tax rate is industry and the taxes they pay. If industry is driven out of the state by excessive taxes, those dollars lost will be added to the remaining taxpayers - the homeowners!

Every voter should read carefully both political advertisements in the *Morning Union* of Oct. 30 on pages 8 and 16. You will note that these figures are based on 1978 tax rates (with NO guarantee the rate won't rise) and that the places gaining the most relief are heavily industrial areas east of Worcester. (The noted exceptions in this area are Holyoke, Springfield, and Westfield.) Once again we in Western Mass. are being asked to gamble on something that loads the dice in favor of the other end of the state.

I say NO on Question 1. Instead let's get the message to our legislators that we need real relief - lower spending (rates) and attract industry and their tax dollars back to Massachusetts. This will have a real and lasting effect on property taxes.

Linda Nelson
Agawam

State Election 1978

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

SENATOR IN CONGRESS

Edward W. Brooke, 535 Beacon Street, Newton, Republican
Paul E. Tsongas, 80 Mansur Street, Lowell, Democratic

GOVERNOR - LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Hatch - Cowin, Republican
King - O'Neill, Democratic

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Francis X. Bellotti, 120 Hillside Avenue, Quincy, Democratic
William F. Weld, 28 Fayerweather Street, Cambridge, Republican

SECRETARY

Michael Joseph Connolly, 122 Montclair Avenue, Boston, Democratic
John W. Sears, 7 Acorn Street, Boston, Republican

TREASURER

Robert Q. Crane, 7 Mountview Road, Wellesley, Democratic
Lewis S. W. Crampton, 15 Bradford Street, Boston, Republican

AUDITOR

Thaddeus Buczko, 47 Butler Street, Salem, Democratic
Timothy E. O'Brien, 295 Bellevue, Boston, Republican

COUNCILLORS

EIGHTH DISTRICT

Edward M. O'Brien, 10 Dragon Circle, Easthampton, Democratic

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

FIRST DISTRICT

Silvio O. Conte, 49 Blythewood Drive, Pittsfield, Republican

SENATORS IN GENERAL COURT

SECOND HAMPDEN & HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT

Alan D. Sisitsky, 54 Draper Street, Springfield, Democratic

REPRESENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT

THIRD HAMPDEN DISTRICT

Edward W. Connelly, 565 River Road, Agawam, Republican
Joseph A. Della-Giustina Jr., 469 Corey Street, Agawam, Democratic

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

HAMPDEN DISTRICT

Matthew J. Ryan Jr., 1363 Plumtree Road, Springfield, Democratic

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

HAMPDEN COUNTY

Leonard J. Collamore, 80 Bennington Street, Springfield, Democratic

COUNTY TREASURER

HAMPDEN COUNTY

Daniel M. Keyes, 101 Wilber Street, Springfield, Democratic

REGISTER OF PROBATE AND INSOLVENCY

HAMPDEN COUNTY

John P. O'Brien, 80 South Branch Parkway, Springfield, Democratic

Photographs submitted for publication will be returned ONLY if accompanied by a self addressed, stamped envelope of suitable size.

CANDIDATES CORNER

Ed's Note: The 'Candidates Corner' which appears below, and which appeared in last week's edition contains *unedited* statements written by the candidates for purposes of publication.

Joseph Della-giustina

"When the smaller 160 member House of Representatives sits for the first time in January, 1979, the real premium is going to be on experience." Rep. Ed Connelly told a meeting of campaign supporters recently at his home.

A candidate for re-election in the new 3rd Hampden District, Rep. Connelly said he believed the district would be "in a far better position if its representative is experienced in the legislature and familiar with the rules, procedures and people that make things happen."

"In the area of committee appointments in particular, seniority and experience and knowledge of the issues are among the key components in the decision to assign members to specific committees," Rep. Connelly said.

"It is just natural that new members go to the end of the line when committee assignments are made, the same thing that happens in any organization. People with proven ability get the first consideration."

I believe my experience and my ability to get things accomplished in the House will mean a committee assignment that will allow me to continue to be effective for this district," Rep. Connelly said.

"A new member would not only have less of a chance for such a committee assignment, but he would be spending the first year or two in on-the-job training."

What our district needs is to have its State Representative ready to go from day one," Rep. Connelly said.

Rep. Connelly is presently a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

The new 3rd Hampden District includes Agawam, Blandford, Chester, Granville, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, and Tolland.

Edward Connelly

Joseph A. Della-Giustina, candidate for state representative of the Third Hampden District, has made the following statement:

I am appalled that Agawam will soon be stripped of its landmarks and services. These services have had the approval of the townspeople over these past years. The people who use these services will suffer serious losses.

The closing of the fire station could cost lives, and the closing of the center library will cost many elderly and children an educational source. I look upon the closing of the library as operating with blindfolds on. I am sure that when Agawam's population was very limited, it probably needed only one central library. But, with the constant growth of our population, we would now be trying to reach these people by creating new library branches, if that were the case.

If Agawam were to look forward to a diminishing population, I might feel a bit different. Since we all agree that Agawam's population potential will be some 75-80 thousand, then Agawam should be more and more service conscious.

There is talk of a \$55,000 savings by closing the North Agawam fire station. However, as a former councilor, I know that this is not true. And the same applies to the library. The total savings in tax rate money, I estimate, to be 20¢ a thousand dollars. That is a small price to pay for the protection and educational pleasure received from these two services. I wholeheartedly endorse and support the retention of both.

VE Auxiliary to Meet

The V. E. Auxiliary will hold its regular meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 1st at 7:30 p.m. All members are requested to be present because plans will be made for our annual Christmas party. Refreshments will be served and Bing will be played.



How to Vote for Outstanding Athlete

In order to vote for the 'Outstanding Athlete', our readers should complete the ballot on this page. All citizens of Agawam are eligible to vote for the SENIOR athlete in the four categories -Football, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer and Girls Swimming (circle the appropriate sport). Fill in the athlete's name, your name, address and phone number. Mail the form to The Agawam Advertiser/News at P.O. Box 233 Agawam, Ma: 01001.

The purpose of the award is twofold: (1) to increase community interest in the high school athletic program, and (2) to recognize the individual talents of our amateur athletes.

Tabulation of all ballots will be handled by the staff of the Agawam Advertiser/News. The deadline for the Fall sports category is November 30, 1978.

Outstanding Athlete Award BALLOT

Football
Boys Soccer

circle one

Girls Soccer
Girls Swimming

NAME OF ATHLETE _____

You are allowed ONE VOTE per athlete, per sport

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Mail Ballots To: AGAWAM ADVERTISER/NEWS
'Outstanding Athlete Award'

P.O. BOX 233
AGAWAM, MA. 01001

TAXPAYERS AND VOTERS OF THE 3RD HAMPDEN DISTRICT AGAWAM—BLANDFORD—CHESTER— GRANVILLE—MONTGOMERY—RUSSELL SOUTHWICK—TOLLAND

ED CONNELLY has shown a particular interest in our pocketbooks. It was through his experience and abilities that we were able to receive a \$1,608,735 increase over last year's state aid.

In my town, Agawam, the increase in money meant a difference of \$5.29 per \$1000 on the tax rate. The list below shows how we all benefited from ED CONNELLY's experience and ability.

Join me and many others and re-elect
ED CONNELLY.

INCREASED STATE AID OVER LAST YEAR

Agawam	\$1,058,525	UP 52%
Blandford	96,624	UP 89%
Chester	69,172	UP 41%
Granville	30,519	UP 18%
Montgomery	57,550	UP 131%
Russell	69,935	UP 42%
Southwick	197,778	UP 17%
Tolland	28,632	UP 22%

Vote for and Re-elect

Rep. ED CONNELLY

A Man With CREDIBILITY

A Man Who Can Truly Represent His District

John J. Cardone, 161 School St., Agawam

SPECIAL
This Week Only!

10 % Off

Vinyl Abestos Tile in Stock

Prices Ranging From
\$8.50 to \$17.50

45 sq. ft. in box

20% OFF
Braided Rugs
In stock only

McCARTHY TILE

1140 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-2340

Open Daily until 6 P.M.

Tuesday & Thursday until 9 P.M.; Saturday until 2 P.M.

Southwick

Medical Insurance Option for Town Employees

by Linda McQuade

The Southwick Board of Selectmen voted last week to accept a section of the general laws which would allow town employees an option in medical coverage insurance.

The acceptance of Chapter 16, Section 32 B came as a result of a drastic increase in premiums projected for the town's Blue Cross - Blue Shield group coverage.

John O'Brien, senior representative of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Massachusetts, told selectmen that the rates for the town's group coverage, as of Jan. 1, 1979, would be \$95 a month for family coverage and \$36.64 a month for single coverage. The present rates are \$72 for family and \$28.65 for single.

O'Brien said the rate increase was due to the high incidence of hospitalization

claims by group members during the past two years. He said 67% of the premium is for hospital coverage, and the losses incurred by the company exceeded 100% of the premium collected in both 1977 and 1978.

O'Brien said that although there are "no miracle answers" and that "health insurance was a very unpredictable commodity," the town did have the option to allow its employees to choose the Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage or to opt for the BC-BS sponsored Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) concept.

He said the local HMO is Medical West in Chicopee. "The concept of HMO is the delivery of health services in a controlled atmosphere with a

stress on preventive care. It is designed to have an impact on the high incidence of hospital stays," O'Brien said.

He said all medical services, including well baby, laboratories, examinations, hearing and vision testing, out-patient care and minor surgery, are all located under one roof. In addition, Medical West is contracted with Holyoke, Providence, and Mercy Hospitals and Baystate Medical Center.

Representatives will be conducting seminars for town employees about the HMO concept. The monthly premiums for the HMO plan are \$90.68 for family and \$34.61 for individuals.

Town Clerk Barbara Shibley said that currently there are 119 families and 70 individuals enrolled in the town's group insurance coverage. She said each employee will have the option to select either the Blue Cross-Blue Shield or the HMO plan. Selection must be made before Jan. 1, 1979. She added that the choices were not binding and that on each Jan. 1 anniversary date, a change in coverage could be made.

In other business, the board adopted a policy for paying transportation costs of all town board members who belong to other organizations related to their boards. Planning Board member Donald Desmond, who is also a director of the Mass. Federation of Planning Boards, made the request.

"It is permissible to pay for travel at 12c a mile and that's all," Selectmen chairman Nuchi Prifti said. "The money will come out of the particular board's budget."

The board also granted a class II license to Paul Kendall to sell used cars at the Exxon station on College Highway and has filed an application to the Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a license transfer to the new owners of the Hilltop Cafe.

Municipal Liability Bill Explained at Departmental Meeting

by Linda McQuade

In the first Southwick departmental meeting in several years, Town Counsel Joseph Rodgers explained the effect the Municipal Liability Bill will have on employees, and Selectmen Chairman and Selectmen Chairman Nuchi Prifti called for a closer working relationship among all town boards for a more effective and efficient government.

The Municipal Liability Bill was passed by the state legislature in July of this year. Retroactive to Aug. 16, 1977, the bill eliminates the immunity previously accorded municipal employees.

"Municipalities no longer have sovereign immunity," Rodgers said, "and it involves everyone in government including elected and appointed officials."

In summary, the bill says that "municipalities (and other public employers) shall be liable for injury or loss of property or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any public employee while acting within the scope of his office or employment, in the same manner and to the same extent as a private individual under like circumstances..."

Rodgers explained that to be immune from personal liability, the employee for which the town is being sued must cooperate with the body politic in the defense of the case and that any information obtained may not be used in later disciplinary action against that employee.

However, the bill further states that municipalities will not be liable for "any claim based upon an act or omission of a public employee exercising due care in the execution of any statute, regulation, ordinance, or bylaw. Also, the city or town is not liable for any claim based upon the exercise or performance of a discretionary function of a public employer or employee acting

within the scope of his office or employment. Nor shall the municipality be liable for any claim arising out of an intentional tort (e.g. assault, battery, false arrest, slander, invasion of privacy, etc.)

In the latter case, Rodgers said the individual, not the town, would be liable.

The monetary limit on the municipality's liability is \$100,000, Rodgers said.

Rodgers said he did not believe there would be a rash of suits against municipalities because the law also states that should a court rule in favor of the municipality, then the person initiating the claim could be liable for the court cost and legal expenses.

The attorney called this law "too all-encompassing" and said there is some discrepancy in the procedure for filing a claim against a city or town. He also warned that this law could cost money. "The law is forcing towns to get liability insurance, and the high premiums could cause an effect on the tax rate," he said.

Rodgers will be attending a seminar for all municipal attorneys this week to interpret further the effects of this recent legislation.

In other business, Prifti commented on the difficulty of providing services to the people while at the same time trying to keep down the tax rate.

"Local municipalities are having greater problems now than in the last depression. We have been caught in the crossfire between the state and federal governments. We have had mandated programs forced upon us."

Prifti challenged all town departments to develop a more efficient government by working closer together and maintaining more open lines of communication.

"We want to develop programs within our own government so that we can be more efficient and be of more service to our people."

Water Board Maintains Springfield Connection

The Southwick Board of Water Commissioners last week signed a five-year contract with Springfield to maintain a water connection in case of emergencies.

The rate to be paid to Springfield for this connection is \$2,165 (\$269.50 per quarter per connection) for

Scholarship Foundation Food Sale

The Citizens Scholarship Foundation of Southwick, Inc. will hold a food sale at the polls on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 7, at Powder Mill School. The sale will begin at 11 a.m., and all kinds of food items will be available.

The Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative Food Service Unit at Southwick High, under the direction of Ina Finn, will also be making 60 apple-nut coffee cakes for this event.

There will be apple, mince, pumpkin, and lemon meringue pies on sale till 6 p.m. Orders can be taken ahead of time on the pies and also on the coffee cakes by calling Ernestine Machesney (569-5104) or Ruth Wateman (569-6089). This is a good time to buy these desserts to freeze for Thanksgiving.

Any donation of food from the townspeople will be greatly appreciated. Doughnuts, cider, and coffee will be on sale throughout the day.

Craft Fair at SHS

An opportunity to pick up some special Christmas presents is coming.

The sophomore class of Southwick High will sponsor a Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A 50c admission charge will allow shoppers to browse and select items from over 30 booths. Selections will include hand-made dolls, hand-knit items, crewel, and silver jewelry, flower arrangements, wood items and much more.

The Southwick Women's Club and the Southwick Band Parents will be among those offering items at this sale. Proceeds from the admission go toward the sophomore class treasury.

Water Board Maintains Springfield Connection

The Southwick Board of Water Commissioners last week signed a five-year contract with Springfield to maintain a water connection in case of emergencies.

The rate to be paid to Springfield for this connection is \$2,165 (\$269.50 per quarter per connection) for

the first two years and \$2,600 annually for the remaining three years.

The contract awaits the signature of Town Counsel Joseph Rodgers.

Southwick paid over \$55,000 in water fees to Springfield last year at a rate of \$441 per million gallons.

Lion's Club Turkey Shoot

Thanksgiving is coming and the Southwick Lions Club offers a chance to bag your own turkey each Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post off Powder Mill Road. The cost is \$1 per shot.

Last week's winners were Robert Cornelius of Westfield, Louis Champiney of Westfield, Alex Baginski of Westfield, Robert Rash of Southwick, Daniel Moccio of Southwick, Peter Woodell of Southwick, Michael Robinczak of Westfield, William Lis of Southwick, Daniel Glennon of Southwick, Donald Humason of Westfield, and John P. Sullivan of Southwick.

Foods & Nutrition Club

A 4-H Foods and Nutrition Club has been organized in Southwick, and the first meeting is scheduled for Nov. 6. Meetings will be held at the home of the club's leader, Linda Wolfe, on College Highway.

Children between the ages of 8 and 11 are eligible for membership. For further information, contact Mrs. Wolfe at 569-6550 after 6 p.m.

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Southwick Women's Club to Meet

The Southwick Women's Club will meet Tuesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at the New Fellowship Hall of the Congregational Church. Honored guest will be Phyllis Catchpaugh of Agawam, 14th District Director of the Mass. State Federation of Women's Clubs.

The speaker will be William Dion of Wilbraham, and his topic will be "Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines." Dion, a pilot, World War I historian, writer and owner of a comprehensive collection of World War aviation memorabilia, will recall an era of high adventure and

inventiveness.

Dion will also share some of his rare collection with the audience. He is a member of the Cross and Cockade, the National Aviation Historical Society, and the Connecticut Aeronautical Historical Association.

Hostesses for the meeting include Jeanne Tsatsos, chairman; Florence Dickinson, Virginia Moriarty, Laura Robillard, Marjorie Hughes, Pat Odiorne, and Viola Sefton. The art corner, under the direction of Shirleyann Cook, Geneva Baillieul, and Christine Gaugh, will feature war mementos.

The meeting is open to the public.

Seniors Hold Shoe Party

The Southwick Senior Citizens are having a Shoe Party on Monday, Nov. 6th at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Depot Court in Southwick. There will be refreshments and sociability, and the proceeds will help the club.

The November meeting will be held on the 13th at 1:15 p.m. at the new quarters on Point Grove Road (formerly Betty Light's old place and

then Lucia's Restaurant).

Any senior citizen is invited to join a small group that has started bowling Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Community Lanes, 261 Elm St., Westfield.

The annual Christmas party and luncheon will be held at the Brass Rail in Southwick on Dec. 13th at noon. Contact Joseph Benoit at 569-6023 for reservations.

Democrats Open Headquarters

Preparations for setting up Democratic Headquarters in Southwick are now underway. The headquarters will be located on College Highway next to Doug's Sunoco. Headquarters chairman is Fred Hanks, and the phone

number is 569-6780.

At the October 12 meeting of the Southwick Democratic Committee, it was unanimously voted to endorse the entire slate of Democratic candidates for the upcoming state election.

Diabetic Screening Clinic Free to Agawam Residents

A free Diabetic Screening Clinic open to all residents of Agawam will be conducted November 7th. The Clinic will be held at the Senior Center on Wright Street between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. and also at Sacred Heart Parish Center at 1059 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills between 7 and 9 p.m.

A simple and painless 60-second test will be performed by pricking the finger and drawing a blood sample to determine your blood sugar level.

The following pre-test meal should be eaten two (2) hours prior to your test. (If you are a

known diabetic, eat your usual lunch or dinner.)

1 cup orange juice
1 bowl vegetable soup
4 saltine crackers
1 slice luncheon meat or cheese
2 slices bread with butter, margarine or mayonaise

½ cup vegetable or salad
tea or coffee without caffeine
1 scoop ice cream

These detection drives are sponsored by the American Diabetic Association, New England Affiliate, and conducted by the Agawam Health Department.



Our Town

by Linda McQuade

The Finance Committee has asked all town departments to hold the line on budget spending in an effort to stabilize Southwick's tax rate. The committee, in Fran Ehrhardt's words, "is gambling that the town will receive the same amount of state reimbursements as it did this year."

Gambling is a good word, because outcome of Question 1 on Tuesday's ballot could shoot down the committee's effort to maintain Southwick's present tax rate.

Question 1, property classification for tax purposes, "would permit the legislature to establish as many as four different classes of real property for tax purposes." Assessment, rating and taxing could be different in each class.

In other words, a yes vote on Question 1 would stop the law requiring every city and town in the state to go to 100% valuation.

Southwick has complied with the law, 100% valuation, since 1972. Agawam is also at 100% valuation. Cities like Boston, Springfield, and Holyoke have not complied with the law and therefore support a yes vote on Question 1.

State reimbursements to cities and towns are based on valuations. If all the cities and towns in the Commonwealth were at 100% valuation, reimbursements would be distributed equitably based on need and other factors.

Without equal valuation, some municipalities will look poorer or richer on paper than they actually are. Those "looking" poorer will receive more state aid.

Despite its many businesses and factories, Holyoke, at much less than 100% valuation, looks like a poor city. And even though Southwick has little industry at all, we look like a very wealthy town. Of course, Holyoke wants a yes vote on Question 1.

I'm not denying that many of the state's cities need aid to survive. But I do not think they should receive increased state aid at the expense of the towns which have complied with the 100% valuation law.

Why should we, who have complied with the law, subsidize the municipalities who chose not to comply and are now trying to get the law repealed?

We all depend, to a great extent, on state aid to keep our tax rates from skyrocketing. But that aid should be distributed equitably with all municipalities on an equal footing of 100% valuation.

Agawam Planning Board to Meet

The Agawam Planning Board will meet on Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Hearing Room on Main Street. The agenda is as follows:
Zone change - Cleary petition
-Springfield Street; formal vote and recommendation to the Town Council
Forest Hills -761 Landgraf Assoc. - Bond release lots 96-107 Valley Brook Road; Bond estimate lots 9-112 Valley Brook Road
Overlook Drive -1111 Final inspection for bond release
Tom Cooney - Report on farm land survey
Form A's as received
Approval of minutes
Any other business that may come before the board

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Shown at a recent Della-Giustina fund raiser are from left to right, Attorney Al Ferigno, candidate Joseph Della-Giustina, Fred Hanks, Dante Molta, and Chris Manolakis, Della-Giustina Campaign Manager. photo by Jack Devine

National Taxpayer's Union Endorses Della-Giustina

Candidate for State Representative, Joseph Della-Giustina, of Agawam, has been endorsed by the Agawam Chapter of the

National Taxpayers' Union according to Ms. Elena Bonavita of Agawam. National Taxpayers Union area representative.

Cable TV Committee to Meet

There will be a meeting of the Town Council's Committee on Cable Television at the

Agawam Junior High School Teachers' Cafeteria on Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.

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Sports

1978 Senior Division Champs



1978 Agawam Little League Senior Division Champions, the Orioles are pictured. Front row (left-right) A. Paul, B. Antico, A. Venturini, P. Sheehan. Secon row Mr. E. Venturini, S. Buoniconti, S. Carmel, D. Tangredi, R. Messenger, T. Sibilia, G. Arsenault, R. Schwein, Mr. G. Schwein.

photo by Jack Devine

Little League Holds Awards Banquet

The Agawam Little League recently held their award banquet at the Italian Sportsman Club in Agawam. The winning teams from the Senior and Major divisions were awarded jackets for their past year's efforts.

The winning teams were the

Orioles, Senior Division and the Dodgers, the Major Division. Games were held during the past baseball season at their own field on School Street in Agawam.

Besides the two divisions represented at the bajquet, there was also an instructional division. There was no award

1978 Major Division Champs



1978 Agawam Little League Champions 10-12 Division, the VFW Dodgers are pictured here. Front row (left-right) Pete Sibilia, Tony Orifice, Dave Champagne, Bob Alves and Dave Pemberton. Second row Gary Desimone (Asst. Coach), Bill Landry, Dennis Sliech, Jeff Hill, and Steve Melanson. Back row Eugene McLean, Joe Warren, Al Bonavita (Asst. Coach), John Alves, Danny Decosmo and Coach Bob Desimone.

photo by Jack Devine

given to the boys in this group because skills and not the scores were stressed during the year.

The coaches for the Oriole Division were Mr. Everett Venturini and Mr. George Schwein. Coaches Mr. Robert Desimone, Mr. Al Bonavita and Mr. Gary Desimone led their Dodgers to the Major Division victory. Many boys from both divisions were present at the Little League All Star games.

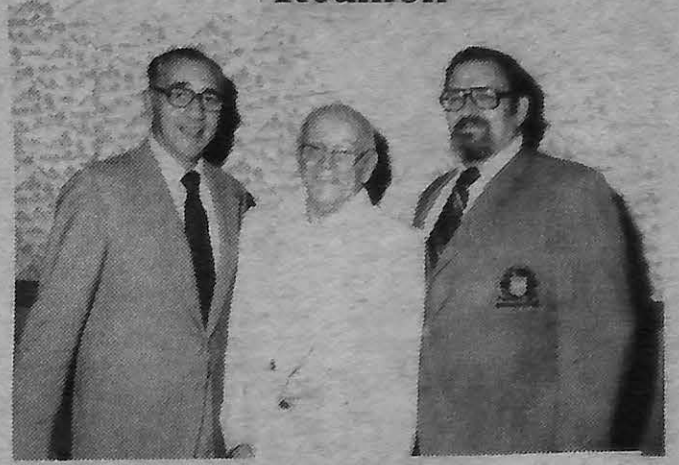
The past successful Little League year was directed by President, Jerry Sibilia and, holding dual position of Vice-President and Treasurer, Mrs.

Charlotte Venturini.

Money for the uear was raised by different activities and by the sale of refreshments during the games, under the direction of Mrs. Marie Sibilia. The many coaches for all the teams donated their time to the boys, even if they were not champion members.

All concerned with Little League are looking forward to another successful season during 1979. Please look for the sign up date November 15, 1978, and in the spring of 1979, and your child will be able to have his Little League uniform on when the umpire calls out the first "Let's Play Ball."

Worthy Ponies Hold Reunion



At a recent reunion of the 1927-32 Worthy Ponies, Master of Ceremonies Raymond Montagne (left) chats with guest speaker and humorist Peter Meltzer(right) and John Alvigini (center). Mr. Alvigini came from California to be with his friends and teammates. The reunion was held at the Dante Club in West Springfield.

Brownie Girls Downed by Ludlow 3-2

by Joanne Anderson

In this weeks column I would like to write about the game the girls played against Ludlow last Thursday. It was a good strong game for Agawam, but they were defeated 3-2.

In the beginning of the game Ludlow played very good and they got their first goal in the middle of the first quarter. Agawam was down but not defeated yet, when Donna Regnier received a pass from Laura Gendron and scored Agawam's first goal.

In the second quarter it was very close with a tie. Agawam had a lot of good breaks near the goal when the ball was loose but no one seemed to place it. Then Ludlow got their second and third goal in the second quarter. So, at halftime it ended up with a lead for Ludlow, 3-1.

Going into the third quarter, Agawam was ready to fight back and they did with an assist from Sue Conroy. Donna Regnier again got a goal for Agawam. Bringing Agawam up 3-2.

Agawam played very well defensively in the fourth quarter. The offensive line still had a lot of good tries and got to the goal with the ball but couldn't get it in. Ludlow seemed to have the same problem.

Our games are very exciting, when it gets close as it did in this game. I'm sure that if you are reading this column, you like soccer. We still need your support for our last two games of the season. Why not come out and cheer for us on either November 1st or 3rd. Both games will be played at the Agawam High School stadium at 3:00 p.m.

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Sportsmen's Corner

by Bill Chiba

Open day of the bow season in Vermont found me in company with three dedicated bowhunters and sportsmen. Bob Kampfer of Feeding Hills, Walter Carney of Suffield, and Stan Cowee of Southwick were up at five in the morning and not letting any grass grow under their feet while they stowed away breakfast and prepared their gear for the day's hunt.

We bunked at Bob Kampfer's hunting camp in Thetford, Vermont. It is ideally located right in the center of the best bowhunting country in Vermont. However, this past winter, Mother Nature took care of the excess deer in the area and about 50% of the herd starved to death. Bob was upset at the lack of deer sign where he hunted in the state forest. Walter voiced the same complaint, and Bob was shocked at the barren condition in his favorite apple orchard. Plenty of apples, but no deer to eat them.

It was a bleak picture, but there are pockets where deer are in abundance. I have received reports that that the Brookline and Athens section of Southern Vermont is well populated.

I found where three or four deer were working a few apple trees and old pasture grass. A small rivulet had a steady flow of cold water, and the deer liked to drink at that one particular spot. I located a tree stand in the area and spent a week waiting for a large buck (I had seen him three different times) to make the mistake of drinking and tasting an apple while I was there. The only deer to work under my stand was a little "skipper" (who won't survive



this winter) about 30 pounds, soaking wet. I watched the little fellow for about 30 minutes till he finally walked off up the hillside.

Mo Eaton's farm had a group of bowhunters up for the weekends. Ron Kerr, Dave Eagan, Jim Brown, Dave Furioni, and Noel Brown hunted hard. They all saw deer, but just couldn't be in the right place at the right time. While in the area, I met up with an old-time buddy and his son. Felix Rosati and his son Gary have been hunting the Bear Notch area for many years. They had the same luck as the rest of us. Walter Wolfe of Northampton had deer coming in to his trees, but all the action was at

night when Walter was sleeping.

I met the local warden one day, and he commented that at that time last year, he had checked twelve deer. This year not one deer was submitted for his observation and recording. It will take a few years for the deer to come back, but all is not gloom. The deer will be healthier and larger. The Vermont legislature manages the deer herd and are doing a lousy job with a surplus build-up that left very little food for winter months. Mother Nature stepped in and took care of the situation in her cruel, but effective way. It is too bad that so much natural resource was wasted.

Hockey Association Open Meeting

The Agawam Hockey Association will hold its monthly open meeting, Monday, November 6, 1978, at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. All parents are urged to attend.

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Soccer Jamboree a Success

The Agawam Soccer Jamboree held last Oct. 14 and 15 by the Agawam Soccer Association was a smashing success. The association wishes to express a special and very warm thank-you to all of the coaches of Agawam, Brookside, Holy Name, Ludlow, Chicopee, and Sixteen Acres and to all of the children for their participation. They also wish to thank the Agawam Advertiser, Channel 22 and Channel 40 for their excellent coverage and those who contributed their time and donations to make this a memorable event.

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- There is a separate sweepstakes for each of the sixteen weeks of the NFL Football season. To enter any one of the sweepstakes, handprint on a plain 3"x5" piece of paper, your name, address, zip code, the name of the cable TV company in your locale (optional), and the name of the team you think will win each of the six games announced on the previous week's show (which you can also learn about by calling the cable TV company in your locale).
- Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed separately to: Home Box Office Football Hero Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 2210, Westbury, New York 11591. Entries must be postmarked by midnight Saturday and received in Westbury by the Tuesday preceding the broadcast of the INSIDE THE NFL show.
- Weekly winners will be selected from among those entries with the correctly identified teams, in random drawings conducted by National Judging Institute, Inc., an independent judging organization, whose decisions are final. In the event that not enough entries with

all six correctly identified winning teams are received, the remaining winners will be selected from those entries with the greatest number of correctly identified winning teams. All prizes will be awarded and winners notified by mail. Only one prize to a family or household. No substitution or exchanges of prizes. Liability for taxes is the responsibility of the winners. Winners may be asked to execute an affidavit of eligibility and release.

4 All residents of the U.S. are eligible to participate, except employees and their families of participating cable companies, Time Inc., and its related companies, their advertising agencies and National Judging Institute, Inc. This offer subject to all federal, state and local laws and void in Missouri and wherever prohibited or restricted by law.

5. For a list of major prize winners, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Home Box Office Football Sweepstakes Winners, P.O. Box 2463, Westbury, New York 11591.

6 Your entry constitutes permission to publicize your name and photo if you are a winner.

Clip and mail to: HBO Football Hero Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 2210, Westbury, New York 11591. Entries must be postmarked by midnight Saturday.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Local HBO affiliate _____

This entry blank is for your convenience, and not a requirement

WEEK OF NOV. 5

Circle one team in each.

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2	Dallas vs Miami	5	Detroit vs Minnesota
3	Giants vs St. Louis	6	Green Bay vs Philadelphia

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430 Plaza Inc., 430 Main St., Agawam

Dairy Mart (No. 1), 711 Main St., Agawam

Dairy Mart (No. 13), 335 Suffield St., Agawam

Village Package Store, 1342A Springfield St., Feeding Hills

Gino's Package Store, 384 Walnut St. Ext., Agawam

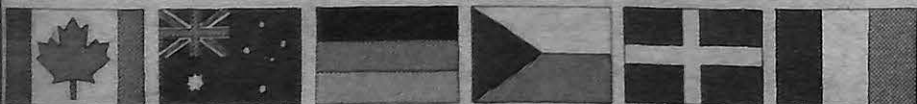
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Southgate Package, 842 Suffield St., Agawam

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Jr. High Soccer Team Improving

by Steve Berard

With a record of 3 wins, 7 losses, and 3 ties, one might think that the Agawam Junior High School soccer team was having a poor season, but when one compares it with last season's mark of zero wins, 15 losses, and one tie, one can see they have improved vastly.

Coach Smith has worked the team strenuously, with practices almost every day after school. Nevertheless, starting fullback John Duggan was quoted as saying, "We did really good in the

practices, but we just couldn't put it together for the games."

When asked what he thought about the season, Duggan replied, "It was a fair season, not that good and not that bad, but if we take our last two games, I think everybody will be satisfied."

Most of the players will be moving up to the high school next year, with the exception of leading goal scorer Davey Jenks. Jenks still has a year left and will lead the team next season.

The Agawam Little League sign-ups will be held at the Captain Leonard House, November 15, 1978 from 7-9 p.m.

Sign-ups are being held early in order to better gauge the number of children in the program for the upcoming baseball season.

There are quite a few advantages to playing in Little League, such as: playing all games on the same field located on School Street; having all practices at the

Agawam Little League Baseball Sign-Ups

Little League location; dedicated coaches; every child must play, and the schedule ends the first week in July, except for All-Star players.

The age groups are as follows: 5-6 yrs., Instructional \$5.00 fee; 7-9 yrs., Minor Division, \$5.00 fee; 10-12 yrs., Major Division, \$6.00 fee; and 13-15 yrs., Senior Division, \$6.00 fee.

There must be an adult present to sign-up their child on November 15th.

Our Feathered Friends

by Mary Os



Recently my husband called to me one morning to come and see the "miniature penguin" feeding at our back porch feeding station. He is not much of a bird watcher, but I could see where his description was not all that inaccurate. There enjoying the mixed seed was a White-breasted Nuthatch. It was a male, easily distinguished by its very black cap. The female is more of an overall gray, a difference clearly seen when both visit the station at the same time. Both are about five inches in length with short, stubby tails which enable them to balance as they run up and down tree trunks seeking food. Primarily insectivores, these agile little birds feed on ants, beetles, and other insects and their eggs.

Much in the style of the Blue Jay, the Nuthatch will collect acorns and nuts in the fall and hide them hoping to recover them during the hard winter months. The Nuthatch has a long, sharp, slightly upturned beak which is perfect for digging out insects from bark crevices and for cracking open nuts. It is these tow activities after which they were named.

Within our area, there are two Nuthatches, the White-breasted and the Red-breasted. While the Red-breasted does have a rust-colored breast, perhaps the most distinguishing difference at first glance is the black eye streak which the Red-breasted sports, but the White-breasted is also one inch shorter. There is also a

brown-capped Nuthatch appropriately named the Brown-headed Nuthatch, which is even smaller than the Red-breasted, but its range does not extend this far north.

I kept an active eye on the station that day waiting for a female Nuthatch to make an appearance. Apparently monogamous, Nuthatches remain with their mates all year long, even though they may join a small flock of chickadees, woodpeckers, and titmice. So I was not surprised to look out in the late afternoon and see two Nuthatches hunting around at diverse ends of the deck. What I was surprised to see was that they were both male. With no female around, they were not unduly antagonistic towards each other, but they did have their moments. One would charge the other, head lowered, wings flared, approaching in a very Dracula-like gait. The other would give way and fly off to a nearby tree until a safer moment presented itself. The two have been frequent visitors, with no sign of a female.

When a male Nuthatch is fortunate enough to have a mate, the two look for a suitable place to build a nest in the spring. An old woodpecker hole or natural cavity might serve, as well as a bird box or a hole they excavate themselves. Nuthatches like to plaster the inside of the entrance to the grass, twig, hair, and feather-lined cup-shaped nest with mud. This helps to keep intruders out.

The female lays from 4 to 8 gray-brown speckled buff-colored eggs in the nest, which is anywhere from 5 to 60 feet off the ground. While the female incubates eggs, her loving husband brings her food, a practice he was wise enough to engage in during the courtship period. He also helps feed the newly-hatched young. Family ties are strong and the young often flock with their parents for quite some time.

Nuthatches are relatively tame and can be taught to feed from a human hand when utmost patience is employed. For myself, I am happy to watch them from a window while remembering my frost-bit fingers suffered during my chickadee-taming days.



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BLANDFORD—GRANVILLE—RUSSELL
MONTGOMERY—TOLLAND**

WHAT KIND OF MAN IS THIS?

On Sept. 16-Rep. Ed. Connelly in the Westfield Evening News **DENIED** he sponsored the 100% valuation enforcement bill!!

On Oct. 9-On television and radio he **ADMITTED** he sponsored the 100% valuation enforcement bill!!

On Oct. 9-Rep. Connelly on T.V. and radio said he **SPONSORED** the Property Classification Amendment and that he **VOTED FOR IT!!**

On Oct 19-On television he **ADMITTED** that he **DID NOT** Sponsored the Property Classification Amendment, that he voted **AGAINST** having the amendment question on the Nov. 7th ballot!!

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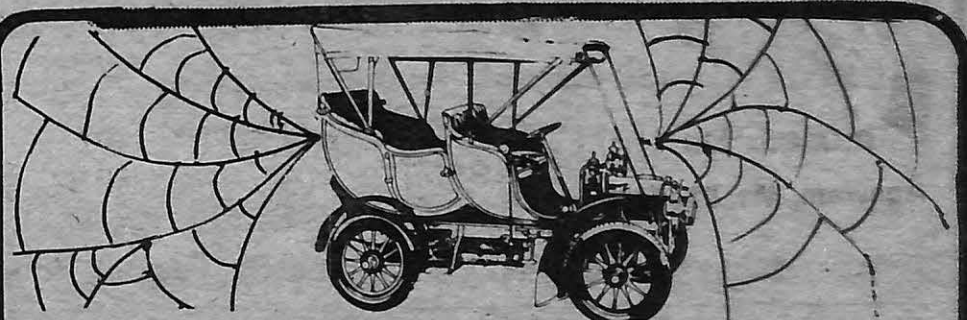
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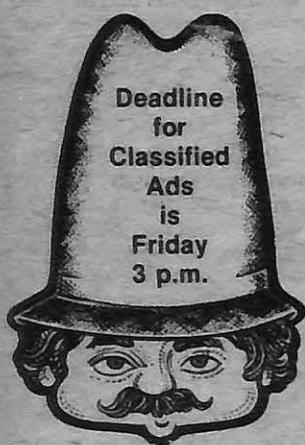
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- ★ His successful efforts for increased State Aid
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